THE GENESEE FARMER.

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THE GENESEE FARMER.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2, 1836.

THE NEW VOLUME.

With the new year we enter upon a new volume, and we are happy to say, under encouraging circumstances. Our subscription list is gradually increasing; and we have the gratification of knowing that our sheet is exerting a happy influence wherever it circulates. Its discussions have generally been conducted in a manner calculated to elicit facts without generating bitterness, and to exert a happy influence over both the moral and physical world. To excite the energies of the mind, as well as to make the earth bring forth her richest treasures, will continue to be our aim. Many a friendly hand has heretofore been extended to our aid, and we have reason to believe that the assistance which has been so liberally bestowed, will be continued, besides which we hope to meet with many new friends who will help us onward in our work. To our numerous correspondents, and to those who have used their exertions to obtain subscribers for the Farmer, we tender our grateful thanks, and solicit a continuance of their favors.

☞ We are permitted to state that DAVID THOMAS will continue his contributions to the Editorial Department of the Farmer; and we take this opportunity to express our gratitude for the kindness he has uniformly extended to us through a period of five years.

☞ We would remind our friends that we need their aid to enable us to sustain the subscription to the Farmer. From two to three hundred subscribers have heretofore discontinued their papers at the end of each volume, and we have reason to suppose that about that number will part company with us this month. We shall therefore be grateful to any of our readers who will use their influence to obtain new subscribers to make up the deficiency.

THE MONTHLY FARMER.

The prospectus for this paper has been every where, so far as we have heard, well received; and we have already received several large lists of subscribers. It is made up of selections from the Genesee Farmer, and published on the first of each month, making an annual volume, with title page and index, of 200 pages, octavo. Terms—Single copy 50 cents—seven copies for $3,00, and twelve copies for $5,00, *payable in all cases in advance.* We should be gratified to have every subscriber to the Genesee Farmer act as agent for the Monthly Farmer. Specimen numbers will be sent to all who signify a desire to receive them.

WARMING HOUSES WITH HOT AIR.

Devising means for promoting economy in the consumption of fuel, is a fit subject for the ingenuity and investigation of all, as it is a subject in which all are interested. The article of fuel constitutes an item of yearly expense in every family, of no inconsiderable magnitude. In our cities and towns, and their neighborhoods, the increasing scarcity of fuel is often severely felt, and especially in cold winters. Hence it becomes a great desideratum to obtain the greatest amount of heat with the least expenditure of fuel and money.

A given quantity of fuel, when burned, will give out a certain amount of heat. This amount cannot be altered, except by altering the nature of the fuel. It is true it may be so given out as to be entirely lost to us, by escaping in various ways. It becomes a question of great importance, how can this heat be best applied to the intended use, without being wasted by escaping?

When fuel is burning, the heat which is generated is given off in two ways. One is by radiation, where the heat is thrown off from the fire in rays; that is, in straight lines in every direction, with the light which is emitted at the same time. The other is by the heated air which is constantly passing up the chimney with the smoke. By far the greater part of the heat which is produced passes off by the latter means. The best and most economical contrivance is one which will catch and retain all the heat, which would otherwise escape with the smoke.

In the common open brick fire place, almost the whole of the heat generated pssses up the chimney, nearly all the heat received, being simply what the fire radiates into different parts of the room. With the stove and pipe a much greater quantity is saved, in consequence of the rising current parting with its heat to the iron of the stove, which again communicates it to the air of the room. By a series of experiments, carefully performed a few years since in Philadelphia, it was found that forty-two feet of pipe, in addition to a *sheet* iron stove, was requisite to secure all the heat, so that the smoke might pass off cold. With a sheet iron stove of thirteen feet pipe, nearly the same result was obtained, only *one-twentieth* of the heat being lost. With a *cast* iron ten plate stove and five and a half feet of pipe, more than *one-half* of the heat was lost. With an open Franklin stove and same length of pipe, nearly *two-thirds* of the heat escaped. While in an open fire place of the common construction, *nine-tenths* passed with the smoke up the chimney. Thus, the man who pays fifty dollars a year for wood, for a common fire place, may be said to pay forty-five of this for the privilege of warming the air above the roof of his house.

It is in consequence of this enormous waste, that the general practice of warming rooms with stoves has been adopted. But stoves have some inconveniences, which have led to another contrivance. This is a furnace for heating air, in order that it may be conveyed through tin pipes to any desired part of the house. Various modes have been adopted for affecting this object, mostly for use in cities and in large houses, and applicable to the burning of coal only. Omitting any further notice of these, as not being needed by our farmers generally, who mostly burn wood, we will proceed at once to describe a contrivance of this kind by an ingenious friend, who finds it upon trial, to possess in a high degree, every important convenience. and to be attended with very little expense. It consists of a large box stove, surmounted with two flat cast iron drums, and these again by two sheet iron ones. These four drums are made to communicate with each other, and with the stove by short pieces of pipe, joined to their alternate enes. The smoke and heated current of air after it leaves the stove, is thus broken in its course eight times, and is nearly deprived of its heat before it passes finally out. The heat is communicated to the air outside the drums, which rises in large volumes about them in consequence of its increased temperature; and is retained from escaping by a back wall round the whole apparatus, except the door of the stove, which is left even with the outside of the wall. A chamber is thus formed, from which the heated air, collected in it, is at once conducted to any part of the house. This apparatus is placed in a small open cellar, and renders all fire above stairs wholly unnecessary.

Instead of a horizontal position, our friend proposes to place the drums vertically, so that the hot air from the fire by ascending in one and descending in the other, shall be sooner and more effectually deprived of its heat.

Where it is desired to convey the heated air to any distance through the house without loss by escape of heat, during its passage, the pipes for its conveyance should be made of bright tin plate. Polished metallic substances are the worst radiators and have the least absorbing power. Consequently those would absorb less heat from the passing air, and what they would absorb would be thrown off by radiation more slowly. Unmetallic and unpolished surfaces, on the contrary, absorb heat readily, and throw it off rapidly by radiation.* Such should therefore be the surfaces of the stove and drums, in order that they may impart their heat freely to the surrounding air. And such are the surfaces which they generally possess, the rough and oxidized coating which commonly covers them contributing greatly to the escape of heat. But they would be improved if covered with a thin coat of lamp black, especially those made of sheet iron, which often has considerable polish. Their *inner* surfaces need no care, as they soon become gifted with a powerful absorbing power by the coating of soot upon them.

The brick wall which surrounds the drums sometimes becomes hot, and consequently some heat escapes in this way. This might be entirely prevented in several ways. Two thin walls may be built one enclosing the other and with a narrow space btween them filled with air. Or a substance may be used whose power of conduct-

* Professor Leslie found that a clean metallic surface, the radiating power of which was equal to 12, when covered with a thin coat of glue had its radiating power so far increased as to be equal to 80, and on covering it with lamp-black it became equal to 100. White and other colored paper produced an effect nearly equal to lamp-black.

heat escapes in this way. This might be entirely prevented in several ways. Two thin walls may be built one enclosing the other and with a narrow space between them filled with air. Or a substance may be used whose power of conducting heat is less than that of brick and mortar. Charcoal has this non-conducting property in a very eminent degree; and if finely pulverized and mixed with about one fifth part of pipe clay, (or other pure clay,) it may be kneeded and formed into any shape, and will be so impervious to heat, that a piece of it may be held in the fingers within an inch of where it is red hot. It was with a composition similar to this that the celebrated Dr. Black constructed the sides of his furnace, which although but two inches thick, would not scorch paper applied to its outside, while it was melting iron within. Or the brick wall first described may be enclosed within an inch or two with thin wooden boards, and the vacant space between filled loosely with finely pulverized charcoal, which would be best if obtained from the lightest and most porous kinds of wood.

This method of warming houses secures several important advantages. First, it saves fuel, as a single fire in a large stove has been found ample for heating several rooms. Secondly, it saves time, for large wood may be put in the stove, so that the fire needs replenishing only once in six or seven hours, and the care of one fire only is needed. Thirdly, it saves cost in cutting, as large wood is used, instead of cutting it so small that it may be distributed in small stoves in different parts of the house. Fourthly, it saves house room; no space whatever being occupied by it in the room heated. Fifthly, it prevents dust and dirt, which are the universal accompaniments of stoves and fire-places, arising from wood carried in and handed about, ashes spilled, fire scattered, &c., besides the vexation of a smokey chimney. Sixthly, it is a great saving of comfort, for instead of having only one or two rooms warmed, the whole house is rendered comfortable, so that we may pass into any room without being chilled; if it becomes necessary to rise in the night, we do not return shivering with cold to bed, as the warmth continues through the night. Seventhly, it is safe. No injury can happen to children by burning the skin, nor death from clothes taking fire, which so frequently occur where stoves and fire-places are used.

Fresh air must always be admitted into rooms for breathing. By means of the present contrivance, this fresh air, instead of coming *cold* into the room, passes into it in a heated state, and in fact the very air which warms it, is the purest air of the room. Hence a cold draught, otherwise necessary, is entirely avoided. Instead of currents of cold air issuing into the room through every crack and crevice, the hot air which rushes in, forces the air of the room out through them; hence this frequent cause of colds and catarrhs is removed.

But it has some inconveniences; one is, the *dryness* which is felt in the air. But this dryness must always be the consequence where air is rendered warmer, as its capacity for moisture always increases with its temperature. In the present case, the air has nothing of that peculiar unpleasantness attending stoves, and its dryness may be at once prevented by placing a vessel of water in the ascending current. Another objection is, that in consequence of the evenness of temperature in all parts of the room, persons differently dressed and requiring different degrees of warmth, are unequally accommodated, some are too cold, while others are too hot; and also persons coming in from the cold, cannot warm themselves so fast, as when a fire is in the room. This is the only serious inconvenience, and may be obviated by the addition of a small stove in such rooms as may need it. The evil however is generally so slight as scarcely to need this addition. Long habit and association cause many to prefer an open fire-place to any other mode of warming rooms; to such the present contrivance might not be in every respect agreeable; but those who have been accustomed to stoves, find in the appearance and feeling of summer, which a mild pleasant air and a closed fire-place conveys, something far more pleasing than the artificial appearances of the common modes of heating.

The application of the heated air to the purposes of baking, cooking, &c. before it ascends into the rooms above, requires further experiments.

ON WATERED MEADOWS.

Artificial irrigation is a prominent feature in the husbandry of some countries, as in Egypt, Persia, and India. The valley of the Nile owes its fertility to the floods of the river, or to water raised by the labors of men and oxen; and in some of the *oases*, according to Malte-Brun, water is drawn from wells from 300 to 500 feet deep, for the same purpose.

In higher latitudes however, where the heat is less intense and the climate more humid, artificial irrigation is not so necessary, nor so much practiced.* In our own country, it has been chiefly confined to meadows. Before the introduction of plaster, which has so greatly increased the quantity of clover hay,—watered meadows were of very great account; and in districts less adapted to the natural grasses than the Genesee country, many farmers placed their chief dependance for hay on the narrow vales which extended through their farms, and which in a state of nature were traversed by small streams. From a low dam, the stream was led in shallow ditches with very little descent, so as to get the water as high up the sloping sides of the vale as possible. The natural turf formed the lower sides of these ditches, the excavated earth being thrown on the upper side; and in this way, the obstruction of a single sod in the channel, was sufficient to cause an overflow.

It was found by experience that the grass of watered meadows, started much sooner in spring; and that it was protected by the water from hard frosts which often occur at that early season. Observation also proved that level lands, even when naturally dry, are not so well adapted for irrigation as banks from which the water has a quick descent. Some farmers were too careless however, to take all the advantages which their situation allowed; and the water was negligently left to run too long in one place, so that some spots were damaged by excessive moisture, the grass becoming lodged or rotted, while other parts were suffering from drouth. When we consider that a soaking rain as often as once a week, adds greatly to the growth of grass, we may become satisfied that the water may be removed to advantage as soon as the bank becomes saturated with moisture; and that even a small stream by frequent shifting, may be made to fertilize a great extent of ground.

In some rocky soils, the water has been found to sink before it could reach the lower side of the slope; and in such cases flooding is a remedy. This is effected by collecting the streams in ponds. We have seen one with a gate which had been made to open as soon at it was full and began to run over; and which would close again without any assistance or supervision, when it became empty.

Hard or compact soils appear to derive the most benefit from irrigation. In sandy lands the moisture rises by elective attraction more freely through the subsoil from below, thus supplying the deficiency at the surface which is caused by evaporation; and probably from this cause (as well as from another which we shall mention), some have been induced to believe that artificial supplies of water, were unnecessary in this climate. We are inclined to hold a different opinion. By turning what collected only in a field above, in time of rain, on a dry bank, *we have had the quantity of grass increased three-fold*, and we therefore recommend this subject to the consideration of farmers who have sloping grounds consisting of heavy loam, and who have streams which can be turned on in spring. The drying up of the brook in summer, constitutes no objection in this case. It is only in the spring that we want to water meadows; and it is for the purpose of giving the grass a start before the drouths of the hot season commence. When it once thickly covers the ground the chief point is gained, evaporation is retarded, and the grass will continue to grow even in dry weather. There are hundreds of acres that might be made in this manner to yield double crops, and with very little labor and attention.

In Dean's New-England Farmer, the following caution is presented: "Particular care should be taken that the water which is led over the ground, be only such as is fit to nourish plants, which *chalybeate waters*, or springs impregnated with a mineral acid, certainly are not. Such water is rather *poisonous* to plants, and prevents their growth."

We have assigned one reason why irrigation may be less useful on sandy soils; and this suggestion of Dr. Dean's, supplies us with another. All the tracts of *yellow* sand that we are acquainted with, yield "chalybeate waters."

*In a late number of the Edinburgh Quarterly Journal, there is an account of the Agriculture of the county of Wicklow, in Ireland, from which it appears that in that humid climate, the practice which we recommend has been found very useful. We copy the writer's words:

"Mr. Saunders was also a very successful irrigator, and proved the advantage of irrigation by the permanency of its effects. Yet there is no branch of farming more obstinately neglected in the county of Wicklow. than this, even where the land is invitingly formed for watering, and the stream at command."

The publication of the Index to Vol. 5, has delayed the appearance of this paper a few days.

LIME AS A MANURE.

In looking over the Edinburgh Quarterly Journal of Agriculture, we found the following notices of lime as a manure. We indeed consider it the basis of good husbandry; and where Nature has not spread it over our fields, we ought to go to work, and do it with our own hands. Depend upon it, they would be profitably employed.

"Doctor Truell, by the application of *marl* (in the carriage of which he employed thirty bullocks),—rendered a very rocky, and otherwise unfavorably circumstanced out-farm, fertile. He ascertained that the effects of this ponderous manure are equally beneficial on light and argillaceous soils."

"*Limestone gravel* has produced the most successful effects in many parts of the barony of Rathdown, in converting barren argillaceous moors into profitable meadow land, and it is only to be regretted that this admirable manure for tenacious soils, has not been more generally applied under similar circumstances. It is obvious that the admixture of this calcareous substance with stiff clay, devoid by nature of this earth, operates beneficially in a two-fold way: mechanically by separating the adhesive particles of clay, and as a fertilizing stimulant [?] by its calcareous properties. Some years ago, the farmers in this north-east disvision, rarely availed themselves of the calcareous manures which Providence had given them, and in the few cases in which they *did* use them, they took corn crop after crop while the ground would yield a grain, and then without sowing any good grass seeds, suffered the land to rest, unaided by a cleansing fallow, or by any manure.

"The effects of *marl* are scarcely credible to those who have not witnessed them. There are recorded instances in the barony of Newcastle, on the sea coast, of *eighteen successive crops of corn*, from land previously covered with marl suffered to lie on the lea surface three years before breaking up. Farm-yard manure applied to land after marling, as we have had former occasion of remarking, causes the largest crops of potatoes."

WATERING CATTLE IN WINTER.

Perhaps it would excite the surprise of many of our readers, should we assert that cattle generally suffer more from thirst in winter, than during the heat of summer. Yet there is strong reason to believe that this is to a great extent the case. Cattle whose winter food consists entirely of hay, straw, and other dry materials, need a plentiful and frequent supply of pure fresh water. This many do not obtain, as nearly all running streams are covered with ice, and cattle are obliged to wander a considerable distance from the yard to the watering place, through deep snows or over a slippery path, exposed to the annoyance of dogs, or to be gored by other cattle, and rather than endure this, they often suffer much from a want of water. It has been ascertained, that a bullock, who has water at command, will drink it eight times a day. It should always therefore be of easy access to cattle at all times; and not on a distant part of the farm, or in the open road, so that in order that cattle may help themselves to it, you are obliged to leave your gate open, or barn-yard bars down, and thus your yard is thronged with vagrant colts and other ill-bred animals, who take possession of whatever fodder they can lay their mouths upon, and pay no regard to the rights of *meum* and *tuum*. Dr. Anderson says that he knew a man who became very rich by being *great* in *little* matters, that is in attending carefully to things which other men consider of too little consequence to claim their notice; and this man always made it a point to see that his cattle, particularly his milch cows, should have a constant supply of the purest water.

PRUNING GRAPE VINES.

Hardy vines may be pruned any time during winter. If the work is done in the earlier part, the wounded parts will have longer time to become dry and hardened, and the sap vessels closed so that there will be less danger of their bleeding in spring. This operation is best performed during mild open weather, which frequently occurs in winter. Many grape vines of the hardy varieties have been allowed to grow without control, and have consequently become too thick and numerous in the branches. All but the most thrifty of the last years shoots should therefore be cut away, and increased thriftiness in the vine, and an improvement in the fruit will be the consequence.

Lawyers should Study Horticulture.

A case is recorded in the law reports, of an action which was brought against a gardener near London, in the reign of Charles the second, for selling cabbage seed instead of cauliflower seed. On trial it appeared, that both had been planted near each other, by the purchaser, and to this error, the gardener contended that the degeneracy of the seed was owing. But he lost his cause in consequence of the prevailing ignorance of what is termed the sexual doctrine of plants. But it has been made known in succeeding ages that varieties of the same species, as are cabbage and cauliflower, may be totally changed by mixing of the pollen or farina of the flowers, a fact which not only teaches gardeners the necessity of raising seeds of these varieties remote from each other, but also shows the importance of members of the legal profession understanding the principles of agricultural and horticultural knowledge.

From the New England Farmer.

Remarks on cooking Food for Cattle, the

ECONOMY OF HEAT, &C.

In our last, we commenced giving notices of certain experiments, instituted under the auspices of the Maryland Agricultural Society, for ascertaining the advantages of preparing food for cattle, &c. We now continue this subject.

Flax Seed.—Five ounces of flax seed were next placed on the coals in one pound, ten ounces of water, and twelve ounces more water were added. The mess was very easily excited, and the oil boiled over more than once. What was saved made a very rich looking mess of twenty-five ounces. But nothing need be said in favor of flax seed jelly—those who have used it, place it even before corn meal for fattening beeves.

Wheat Shorts.—Five ounces of good wheat shorts were cooked in one pound, ten ounces of water, with the addition of eight ounces more during the boiling. When done, the mess looked liked a rich loblolly, and weighed thirty-one ounces.

In all these experiments, that the increase of both bulk and weight was caused and made by the water, aided by the agency of heat, there can be no doubt. And when it is considered that water is the greatest ingredient in the richest made soups; and is the chief agent in the growth not only of herbs and plants, but of huge oaks of the forest, why may it not in an absorbed and solid state conduce to the growth and increase of a hog?

Corn crushed, (to ascertain the yield.)—A tub of five bushels of corn in the ear was shelled, and yielded two and a half bushels and one quart—the cobs were then pounded and again mixed with the corn. In this state the whole was ground, and reduced to a fine chop. It now yielded 4½ bushels, wanting one quart.

If the eighty-one quarts of corn had been ground into tolerable meal, they would have yielded by measure one hundred and five quarts of meal, and with the cobs added did make one hundred and forty-three quarts of fine chop. I regret that the different items of this experiment were not weighed as well as measured.

Singular Mode of Fattening Cattle.

In some parts of France, according to an English writer on Agriculture, they fatten with maize, [Indian corn,] "but in order to renden it tender, they pour boiling hot water upon it, cover it up close, and give it to the cattle the same day, and in this way it is a most excellent fattener, both of cattle and poultry. But in order to make them fattes sooner and better, they give them every night, and sometimes of a morning, a ball of pork grease as large as an apple; they say this is both physic and food, and makes them thrive the better.

"The fact of hog's grease being given, was confirmed at Souillac; it is given to increase the appetite, and answers so well, that the beasts perfectly devour their food after it, and their coats become smooth and shining. The most fattening food they know for a bullock, is walnut oil cake. All here give salt plentifully, both to cattle and sheep, being but 1d. per pound. But this practice is, more or less, universal through the whole kingdom.

"In Flanders, from Valenciennes to Orchies, for fattening beasts, and for cows, they dissolve linseed cake in hot water, and the animal drinks, not eats it, having various other food given at the same time, as hay, bran, &c.; for there is no point they adhere to more than always to give a variety of food to a fattening beast."

SHEEP.

The wool grower is counseled to place no dependence upon accidental and external circumstances, for the production of good fleeces, but to rely entirely, and with confidence, upon the properties with which nature has endowed his sheep, the perpetuity of animal properties being scarcely anywhere more strikingly exhibited, than in the certainty and regularity with which the parent sheep convey to their offspring their own distinguished characteristics. Breed is of the utmost consequence. It is the basis upon which all the improvements of the flock must be founded; the only source of hope, that attempts to produce fine wool will be followed with success. The kind of wool depends entirely on the species of sheep which bears it; and the soil and its products, or other external circumstances, have no other effect than to vary the quality of the sample, the wool itself still remaining true to its species—long, short, or mixed. Long and universal experience has established the fitness of heavy, coarse wooled sheep for rich grazing grounds and marshes, confining the light and short wooled stock to the hills and higher pasture. Nevertheless, fitness and propriety, not absolute necessity, have given birth to such arrangement; since short and fine wool might be grown in the low grounds, and long wool in the upper, with an additional expense of winter keeping.—*Lawrence.*

COMMUNICATIONS.

A CHAPTER ON SWINE.

BY ULMUS.

Mr. Tucker,—I have long intended to give you my views on the different kinds of swine kept by our farmers; and an article signed *Vorus* in the 50th number of this paper, in which he distinctly asks the result of my experiment with the China breed, reminds me that I should no longer delay it.

I have seen in my time a great many different kinds of hogs, from the miserable, rude animal which runs almost wild in our back settlements, to the most refined and improved varieties of which the species is susceptible of arriving.—Many of these breeds are distinctly described in books and treatises. Some farmers, and for good reasons no doubt, prefer one breed to another, and all kinds have their friends, to the most worthless; for even now, with all the intelligence that exists, or might exist on the subject, some are so stupid as to prefer the original long nosed, big boned, slab sided, long legged brutes, commonly called woods hogs, which can never be fattened, and which, even to get into *passable* condition, half a dozen of them would exhaust the best stored corn crib in the country. I have before partially given my opinion of these animals, and positively, rather than have them on a farm of mine, I would have no hogs at all, so utterly do I detest them—always in mischief, never satisfied with eating, the greatest travelers of any animal under heaven, savagely ferocious; and in fine, possessing not one single quality that can reconcile them to the attention of a christian farmer. I can hold no sympathy for their existence, and very little indeed for any man who can keep them on his farm. So much for *them*.

As to the improved varieties kept in our country, many of them are good, even excellent. They are called by many different names, and even the same variety are differently called in sundry places. The hog however which appears to be most liked, tho' I cannot say justly so, is a large, stout, white hog, of no particular breed, that will weigh from 3 to 500 pounds, at 18 to 24 months old. This hog is a huge feeder, stout boned, has a thick skin, considerable offal, and is an unprofitable animal to breed. It may here be asked why should our farmers make such a mistake in selecting such animals when better are to be found? I know of no reason only that they are large, and will make a *great hog*, and a great hog looks better than a small one; then the skin of a white hog looks fairer than a black or spotted one. And as the pork of the farm is usually sold to merchants who put it down in barrels for sale, they prefer large hogs, because *they say*, they get more *mess* from a large hog than a small one. All this seems very plausible and very good theory if it were true; but the grand difficulty is, that it is in nine cases out of ten perfectly false. Taking two hogs of *equal fatness* and kind, although of different sizes, the proportion of offal in each is the same; and the least study on the subject will readily convince any one, that ***the most profitable animal for the farmer is that which will make the greatest quantity of good pork with the least expense of food and labor.*** This proposition I conceive embraces the whole question.

The next question is, what is the proper size for a hog to attain to be most profitable and give the best pork? It may be said with truth, and I concur in the opinion, from two to three hundred and fifty pounds; this last weight may be attained by a small boned, thin skinned animal at the age of 18 to 20 months, of almost any good improved breed. I have seen breeds which would go up to 5, 6, 7, and even 800 pounds, but they were so gross in bone, skin and offal generally, and such enormous eaters withal, that I consider them as altogether a bad breed for any farmer to keep. Some of the kinds mentioned by *Vorus*, I have seen. The Berkshire are considered excellent by many, having good points, and size, but failing in my judgment in uniting *all* the qualities of a *good hog*. I like them better than most kinds; but they are too long legged, too heavy headed, and large boned to my eye; still I think them equal to any except the China. The common white Grass or Byfield breed, as they are sometimes called, are snug and closely built and quite a tolerable breed, and will run up to 250 and even 350 pounds at 18 months old; but their pork is not of the *very best* quality, being inclined much to shrink in cooking, and not so well proportioned in its parts on the carcase of the animal as it should be. Indeed I might mention many other varieties, exceptions to all which might be taken in greater or less degree.

But to the China. They are my favorites. Not because *I* have them, for I have them because they were my favorites before I obtained them, and I considered them as *combining more good points* than any other breed I have ever seen. I found them in the possession of Mr. C. N. Bement, more than two years ago in Albany, with some other kinds, and purchased a boar and sow, the latter being then in pig by a fine white English boar of a larger kind. I took them shortly after to my farm on Grand Island, where they now are. The sow raised eight pigs from that litter, it being her first. They were good hogs, fair sized, and well made. One of them I had butchered the past fall, not highly fatted, and he weighed about 350 pounds. He was the poorest pig of the lot. The others I had kept for breeding sows, and given away among my friends. From the young sows of mixed blood, I raised several litters of pigs; very good ones, larger in size than the full bred China, but I perceived no substantial improvement over the China's in them, but on the contrary an occasional tendency to *strange blood* in individual pigs—I mean a marked and deteriorating difference, plainly indicating that the white cross had bad points in their origin. These half bred sows I fatted and killed, and although I have some of three-fourths and seven-eighths blood, I still keep the pure China in its perfection and none other on one principal farm.

The good qualities of these hogs may be thus summed up. They will weigh at eight or nine months old, 160 to 200 pounds, according to their keeping. I killed a few days since two full blooded pigs, the most perfect creatures of the hog kind I ever saw. They were about 15 months old, had never been fed, only on grass and a little wash from the house, until September last. Last May I took them from the farm and put them in a pen at home, and during the summer they had only the offal of the garden and kitchen. In September I commenced feeding them with meal, and took no extra pains with them. Yet they grew very fast, and when killed were pronounced by all who saw them the fattest hogs they ever saw. Their bellies were but two inches from the floor when they stood up, and the board that divided their lodging place from the open pen being five inches high, it was so troublesome for them to get over it two months before they were killed, I had it shaved half off, and then it annoyed them to get over it. They were five feet in circumference round the body back of their shoulders, and twenty inches thick. They literally had no heads, but an enormous pair of jowls, and a little quiet face just above them. In fact they looked with the exception of having small straight ears, as much like the picture in No. 47, of this paper as they could do, but the head set higher up and handsomer. They weighed when dressed 258, and 260 pounds, and I have no doubt but if they had been well fed from the beginning until 20 months old, they would have weighed full 400 pounds. They had less offal than any hogs I ever saw; their limbs being remarkably light. The pork in cutting up was all sides and hams. The shoulders and jowls were of prime quality for smoking, equal to hams in appearance and of enormous size. But to pursue their qualities. Their size I consider *large enough* for *all useful purposes*.—They are the most quiet, docile, harmless animals of the kind; never straying away, keeping fat on almost nothing, for I never saw a poor one; excellent breeders, very hardy, kept with almost any fence, or no fence at all, will quickly fatten at *any* age, are justly made in all their proportions, and in fine, the *beau ideal* of the swine family. Enough in all conscience, my readers will say, in praise of these animals. And yet I think I am not selfish in my opinion of them, for I have none for sale, although when I have plenty of them I am always willing to sell them if wanted. When I first brought them home, many did not like them: Said they were too small, and yet they could not show me deeper, broader, or larger ones: and now these who liked them least say on acquaintance they are the best they have seen, and are getting into the breeds. But they do it slowly, and although I have had them two years and always offered to sell the pigs, only one of my neighbors has as yet obtained them in full blood, so little do they care for good animals. As a specimen of the ease with which they may be kept, my old boar, a hog weighing over 300 pounds, was shut up last May, in a pen fenced in from a pasture, containing not ever 12 or 14 rods of ground, and had not a thing given to him until the middle of November, save water, and was then let out fat and thriving! He is not three years old, and what other hog would bear such keeping? These hogs are black and white spotted, with very thin hair, and of perfect proportions, having a very small smooth tail, or rather an apology for one.

We have fatted at our farms this season about 30 of these animals, only a part of which were full bred—the remainder were three-fourths and

seven-eighth bloods. They fed more easily, with less food than any hogs I ever saw, and were the finest lot of pork. They were in September of 1834 and last April pigs, and weighed from 150 to 250 pounds. I have now several full blooded sows; they are distributed on the different farms of Grand Island, and I make it a clause in the lease of each tenant, that none but these shall be kept upon the farm. So much for China hogs; and when I can find a better breed, which I much doubt, I will forthwith abandon these and obtain them. ULMUS.

LETTERS FROM A FATHER,

Living in the State of New York,

To his Son in Western Pennsylvania.

NO. I.

MY DEAR SON—I do not know that my late journey to Western Pennsylvania, and the interesting visits I had there with you, and other dear relatives and friends, resulted in any thing advantageous to you, or in the least cheering and comforting to your mind. I can scarcely suppose, however, that the journey, together with its incidents, was nugatory, and altogether uninteresting to you. If it is to be believed, as doubtless it is, that my late movements in traveling to the west were, like all other events, intimately connected with the purposes and providences of God, then *good*, although it may not be perceived by us, will result from these movements.

To myself, my late journey and its peculiar incidents, have furnished many subjects of pleasing, as well as self-accusing, reflections. It has, since my return, been to me a source of pungent regret, that I did not, while there, avail myself more than I did of opportunities afforded me of rendering myself useful to you, and my other relatives and friends in that country. My only apology is, that I was far from home, and out of my customary habits, while so great a pressure of considerations lay upon my mind, that I scarcely knew how, or in respect to what objects, to commence efforts of benevolent action.

After having made all due inquest into your moral and intellectual welfare, with devout reference to the paramount interests of Eternity, I should have entered, far more deeply than I did, into investigations relative to your temporalities. I should have examined your farm more attentively than I did, noticing its soil and subsoil, detecting imperfections, and prescribing, if I could, appropriate remedies. In the like manner, and for the like purposes, should I have inspected your implements of husbandry, your stock, and every thing else which constitutes a part of your secular interest. I sorely regret that all this was not done. But to indulge in these self-accusing reflections is altogether useless.

In order to atone for these omissions, and redeem as well as I can lost opportunities, I am determined, Providence permitting, to write you a series of letters, chiefly on subjects of practical husbandry. My letters may be many, for it is intended they shall embrace a general system of agricultural and rural economy. As I intend to prepare these letters for more extensive usefulness than to yourself alone, it is my intention to have them published, one at a time, in the Genesee Farmer. You will receive them only as they will come to you published in that paper. These letters, if deemed of sufficient worth and importance, may be copied from the Genesee Farmer into one, or more than one, of the newspapers of that country. In prosecuting this work, I shall all along have a primary regard to your own interests, but shall treat my subject in such a manner as to render the letters equally, or almost equally, interesting to all the community about you.

In this letter, which is intended only as an introduction of the series, I shall not touch on practical subjects. My principal labor in this introductory number will be, to urge your attention to the practicability and importance of improving your system of husbandry. Your husbandry needs improvement, and I am satisfied it can be improved vastly to your advantage. I do not however mean to say, that your practice needs improvement more than that of many others and most others, whose circumstances are similar to your own. With great pleasure I admit the fact, that many of the exhibitions of your husbandry evinced good judgment and good taste, as well as unwearied and persevering industry. On the whole, your practice as an agriculturist should be regarded as highly creditable to yourself. Yet it needs improvement, and I have not the slightest doubt that your own system of agricultural practice, as well as that of your fellow citizens in general, is susceptible of improvement to an extent so great, as to double, if not treble and quadruple the annual incomes and net profits of your farms. What a surprising difference this would make in your own circumstances, and in the circumstances of that country!

It is a fact that, in the state of New York where I live, rapid progress has been made within a few years, in the march of agricultural improvement. The consequence is, that farmers generally derive from their farms double, and in many instances much more than double, the profits they did formerly. Of course, they are becoming rich, and the increase of wealth here, by agricultural industry, is altogether unprecedented. Lands too are proportionally rising in value, and now they command in the market double the prices they did, a few years since. Such facts should be sufficient to induce you, and all others who are yet treading the old beaten path, to engage heartily in the work of improvement.

I am aware that in your mind may arise questions like the following: How are the improvements thus recommended to be attained? Where is this work of improvement to begin? What are the first steps to be taken in this onward march to better attainments? I cannot answer these questions now. It will, however, be the work of my subsequent letters, to answer them in detail, at least so far I shall find myself able to do it. I only say now, I do not expect this work of improvement to be done hastily—not in one year—not in two. I do not expect it to be finished in many years—no, never. Believe me, my dear son, agriculture is not only an art of exceedingly difficult attainment, but it is a science—too deep—too unsearchable to be understood by finite minds to perfection. With the science of agriculture must necessarily be associated the idea of infinitude. There can be no such thing as attaining a perfect knowledge of it. The work of improvement recommended and urged so much in this letter, is not, therefore, to be undertaken with the expectation of its final and complete accomplishment. Yet it may be undertaken and prosecuted through life to incalculable advantage, and the advantages will be in proportion to the progress made in it.

If you ask, what means you should employ to assist you in improving your knowledge and practice of agriculture? I answer, let your mind become active in meditating all the works of your hands. Let it become your familiar practice to ask yourself questions relative to your business. For instance, if any thing now is about to be undertaken, ask yourself, is this a good plan? Carrying your mind through to the end of it, inquire, what will probably be its results? Is it likely to be a matter of gain or of loss? Take now a familiar case. Suppose you are planning to plant corn on a certain field. Then let your self-inquiry be, is this a suitable field to be put to the culture of corn? Is the soil of the right texture—that is, light, porous, inclining to sand, and not to clay? And have you, at your disposal, a sufficient quantity of manure to put the field in a suitable condition of fertility for a corn crop? I make these suggestions merely to show how farmers should discipline their minds. To one practicing agriculture, an appropriate and severe discipline of the mind is *all* important.

There are other means which you can use to great advantage, in quickening your progress in the march of agricultural improvement. It is beyond dispute, that the agricultural journals, which for several years have been circulating in many parts of the country, have done an immense deal of good. To them chiefly are attributable the great and highly beneficial improvements that have recently been made in practical agriculture. Those journals are not in general appreciated according to their worth, not even by those who read them, and are immediately benefited by them. They do indeed operate to great effect, yet their operation is not apt to be readily perceived, and of course credit is not given where it is due. It is, however, an unquestionable fact, that wherever these journals go, *there* agriculture thrives. Such periodical papers would be of great use in your community, and in all Western Pennsylvania. Should the Genesee Farmer, a periodical of inestimable worth, the very paper which brings you this letter, be patronized there, a change in the agriculture of that country to its vast advantage might confidently be expected.

As further means, slender as they may be, of aiding you in your pursuit of agricultural attainments, I offer you these letters, enjoining it upon you to make yourself master of their contents. Read them again and again. Put away the papers which contain them in a place of safe-keeping, so that at any time you can readily have access to them.

A FARMER.

New York State, December, 1835.

AGRICULTURAL PAPERS.

Letter from Westel W. Powell.

Mr. Tucker,—I have been watching with no small share of interest to learn what progress the Genesee Farmer would make in the affections of its patrons, and the fact that it was commenced without a subscriber, and is now about entering its sixth volume, is pretty satisfactory evidence of its having many warm friends. Indeed, it would be matter of surprise, if a journal conducted with so much ability, and possessing so many intelligent and zealous correspondents, had not worked its way high in the esteem of its patrons. That western New-York has produced and can sustain such a journal, is, to me, a source of much gratification, and that it may live, and increase in interest, and value, is the most devout wish of my heart. No one can calculate the good which such a periodical will produce,—the influence which it exerts over the farming community is immense, and is gradually, though surely, revolutionizing the agricultural world, that is, so far as that world is reached by it.

I could wish the value of such journals to be more generally known, that the farming interest might rise faster, and that a greater portion of the agricultural community might be benefited by the treasures which they contain. I know many farmers who patronize some agricultural paper, and who carefully study it, but, among the whole number I know not one whose improved and improving practice does not plainly bespeak the instruction and benefit he derives from his paper. Among this number I know some whose improvement within a few years has been astonishing, and may be attributed mainly to the influence exerted over them by their Agricultural Paper. So palpable and certain are the effects of agricultural knowledge diffused among farmers, that I would almost undertake to go through the country, and by the appearance of his farm, to point out the farmer who does, and the one who does not, read an Agricultural Paper.

As a medium of communication between farmers an agricultural paper seems to be all that is desirable—easy, cheap, and useful. What cause for regret that more will not avail themselves of its advantages!

Although the Genesee Farmer has very many correspondents who are among the most intelligent farmers of the country, and whose communications are uniformly instructive, yet its value might be enhanced, if the number of its contributors was augmented from among that class of farmers, whose judgment, skill and success in farming operations entitle them to a rank among the first. And our State is not wanting for such men. There are many within my own circle of acquaintance. Had not the Genesee Farmer been assisted by the contributions of practical farmers it would not at this time have possesed the highly respectable reputation which it now does. Such papers, to be most useful, must be the progeny of men who know and practice what they write. Farmers are too apt to labor under the erroneous impression that what one knows, is known to all. If so mischievous a doctrine were exploded and every farmer would venture to offer his own system of practice to the public, the editors of our agricultural prints would not labor under the necessity of searching theorectical authors for something with which to fill up their columns—the only difficulty would be, to find room for what was strictly worthy of publication.

It is notorious that a large proportion of farmers are unsuccessful in their business. And why is this want of success? May we not see it in the fact that they are ignorant in the great principles of their own business? And why ignorant of these great principles?—Perhaps through the force of early education,—they may never have been taught that it could be useful to them in after-life, or that it could promote their happiness to bring science in aid of their labor, or, they may even have been taught that the more learned they were, the more they would be unfitted for the occupation of a farmer. Mistaken, yet too common Education! and in it we see the great cause why the farmer does not rank higher in the grades of society, and his influence more felt in the councils of the nation.

And now, Mr. Editor, while I congratulate you on your success in the publication of the Genesee Farmer hitherto, allow me to express my sincere wish that you may hereafter meet with success in its publication, beyond even your most sanguine expectations, and while with emotions of pleasure I hail the appearance of its sixth volume, permit the desire that it may have patrons enough to fill your pockets with money, while, by way of prompt pay for the benefit, those patrons may find new light and mental cheer in its hitherto pleasing pages.

Accept, sir, for yourself, and the patrons of the Genesee Farmer, my cordial wish that the first day of January 1836, may be to you, and to them, a happy New-Year.

Westel W. Powell.

Milton, Dec. 1835.

From Hints for American Husbandmen.

To John Hare Powell,—Dear Sir—I have cultivated orchard grass for five and twenty years. My crops failed from the bad quality of the seeds, until they were secured by myself. When they are in the state at which they can be shaken from the heads, the stems are cut by a skilful cradler just above the tops of the under grass. After some practice, he is enabled to catch with his left hand the portions taken by the cradle, and to place them regularly as he advances. They are immediately bound in sheaves as large as a man's leg. Double swarths are afterwards mown with a naked scythe to remove the under grass, and leave at proper distances throughout the field, openings upon which the sheaves are shocked. They remain in this state from eight to ten days, until sufficiently dry to be carried to the barn, where they are forthwith thrashed to guard against heating, the great source of injury to the seeds of this valuable crop. The usual manner of securing them, by putting the sheaves into the mow, is, I am satisfied, the most effectual mode to destroy the principle of vegetation, as they can rarely be so treated without being mow-burned.

After having been thrashed, they should be strewed upon the barn floor—occasionally stirred if the quantity be large, during eight or ten days, until they are perfectly dry—without this precaution they would inevitably be heated.

The under grass should all be mown for hay, as soon as possible, after the seeds have been harvested. If it be allowed to stand but for a few days, it loses its nutritive properties—in fact dies, after having lost the heads. The hay thus made, and properly secured, although necessarily harsh from having been allowed to pass the stage of its growth when most succulent and nutritious, I have found good fodder for both horses and neat cattle.

The product of seeds varies from ten to twenty bushels per acre. I have had, in a very favorable season, twenty bushels upon land which would not have afforded, I think, ten of wheat. The product of this, as of all crops, depends much, of course, upon the season, and the preparation of the land. The crop to which I advert, was purposely grown upon a poor soil, to show the excellence of the plant, and the fallacy of the assertion, that it required very rich land.

I sow from eight to ten quarts of clover seeds, and a bushel of orchard grass seeds per acre in February, upon wheat or rye land. I should prefer their being sown with oats or barley, as the seeds should be covered more regularly with the harrow, and their vegetation would be secured. I do not apprehend injury from frost in early sowing, but I dread the effects of drouth from late. I have never suffered from early, but have generally had cause to regret the evils of late sowing.

I consider orchard grass the best herbage for pasturage upon upland—for hay it certainly cannot be excelled.

I cultivated timothy for many years. As pasturage it is utterly worthless after the first of July, upon upland. Timothy hay is valuable for turf horses, and those used in quick draught—but for the purposes of farmers, I think it should not be raised. I have long since discontinued its growth. It is a great exhauster, and should never be cultivated, unless it can be carted to market, and be replaced by large supplies of manure. I am, very obediently, etc., yours,

Loyd Jones.

To the President of the Pennsylvania Agricultural Society.

In presenting Mr. Jones' communication, it is not necessary that I should advert to his accuracy and reputation as a farmer, with which you are sufficently acquainted, to receive his opinions and statements, with implicit reliance upon their validity and force. He is the most successful cultivator of orchard grass, with whose practice I have become acquainted, in any part of the United States.

As he has detailed his mode of securing the seeds, I may be allowed to state, that I have for several years induced him to send large quantities of them to my agricultural friends, whose experiments, in confirmation of my impressions, that when properly treated they seldom fail, establishes the correctness of his management in collecting them.

I have before brought to your notice the extraordinary products of cocksfoot or orchard grass, as pasturage upon strong soils—its early appearance in the spring—its vigorous and rapid growth throughout the summer and autumn, affording even in December, the most succulent and nutritive herbage I have in this climate seen.

Of timothy as pasturage, I have had during twenty years, opinions similar to those conveyed by Mr. Jones.

On highly manured, or deep alluvial soils, it produces greater crops of hay, than any grass I have grown, except red clover. Mr. Welles, of Boston, a few years since, obtained four tons of timothy hay per acre, from a large field. His well known precision, independent of the ample proofs he adduced, sufficiently establishes the fact. When allowed to become *mature*, I think it causes as much exhaustion as a crop of spring barley, or oats. And so far from land becoming better, while exposed to the effects of the scythe, and the rays of the sun in a regular course, wherein timothy is introduced as the meliorating crop, I am led to believe that it is made worse. If timothy be depastured after the first crop has been taken, I apprehend that, as its aftergrowth is extremely feeble, in this climate, the sun must have great effect upon the soil, throughout the hottest season of the year.

Red-top, or herds-grass has recently been brought more into notice, and it will, I have no

doubt, be extensively cultivated, when it shall have been better known. We see it generally upon the ill-reclaimed marsh lands of an adjacent state, where perhaps its extraordinary hardiness and large product, even under the most slovenly management, may have retarded to a certain extent, the improvement of the district in which it is principally grown. It will flourish where no other grass, which *we* cultivate, can live. Its apparent qualities, and the quantity of nutritive matter, are no doubt very much influenced by the state of the land upon which it is produced; hence when offered in the market in competition with the produce of the most highly cultivated upland—it is condemned. The seeds of this grass as those of cocksfoot, are rarely brought to the shops in a sound state—they, as the former, are surrounded by chaff, which, if closely examined, will be found frequently to envelope shrivcled kernels, and to be infested with some of the most noxious weeds with which a farmer can contend.

Upon a small piece of land which had been occupied by Swedish turnips, and had been carefully tilled for many seasons in succession, two bushels of herds-grass seeds per acre, in addito the usual quantity of clover and timothy seeds, were sown with Persian barley in the spring of 1820. A much larger piece was sown at the same time, with timothy alone. The timothy soon disappeared from both—the clover of course long since *went out*—the herds-grass has formed a tough and valuable sward.

Upon arable farms it is sometimes troublesome as it is tenacious of life as blue grass. Its product is not generally heavy upon such lands, and I should not therefore cultivate it with a regular course of white crops, although upon a grazing farm, or upon some large southern domains, where it would be well that the landholders should forget half of their possessions, it might be expedient to cultivate it largely, and obviate the necessity of indulging the fatting bullocks with a regular ramble for the solace of their stomachs, throughout some hundred acres of growing Indian corn. The herds-grass has the great merit to take care of itself.

I have the honor to be, etc.,

JOHN HARE POWEL.

COLD WINTERS.—In the year 400 the Euxine was covered with ice for 20 days. In 859, the Adriatic was covered with ice, but for what length of time does not appear. In 929, the Thames was frozen over for thirteen weeks; the same river was also frozen over in 1263, 1269 and 1607–8. Several times since the same has happened. The winter of 1683 was so severe in Europe, that trees were split by the frost. Loaded sledges passed on the ice from Boston to Nantasket in the winter of 1696–7, and have done the same one or two winters since. On the 12th of December, 1708, the frost in New England was so intense, that trees were killed. A fall of snow took place in February, 1717, so deep that people in Boston had to get out of their chamber windows. Eleven hundred sheep perished on Fisher's Island, from being buried 16 feet in the snow: two were found alive after a lapse of 28 days, they having supported themselves by chewing the wool of the others. In 1780, the Chesapeake was covered with ice as far as the mouth of the Potomac. In the same year, troops of horses and heavy cannon crossed on the ice from New York to Staten Island; and Long Island Sound was nearly covered with ice. Almost all the birds of the forest perished.

GREASE FOR WHEEL-AXLES.—"What is the best grease for wheels?" said one "*whip*" to another, the other day. "Tar," was the reply. "Tar! I despise tar—and grease won't stay there."—Now, had they put the question to our grave selves, we should have told them of a valuable material to diminish friction, not only in carriage wheel boxes, but in all machinery whatever. The composition we believe was first used in the iron works on the Boston mill-dam, and consists of soapstone finely pulverized, and mixed with grease and soft tallow. It is an excellent application—a real anti-frictionist.—*Maine Far.*

AGRICULTURAL CONVENTION.

Believing that important benefits may result from the deliberations of a State Agricultural Convention—that a moderate appropriation of public money, to induce emulation, to reward merit, and to diffuse useful knowledge in the arts of productive labor, would tend essentially to advance our prosperity, and to improve and elevate the character of our State; and knowing that the concert of many can alone ensure success in the most laudable undertaking, the subscribers respectfully invite a convention of gentlemen desirous of giving new impetus to agricultural improvement, either individually or as delegates from towns or counties, at the City Hall in Albany, on the second Monday in February next.

J. H. Bronson,
Calvin M'Knight,
Alpheus Green,
M. Sterling,
Wm. Smith,
Eli Farwell,
Olney Peirce,
Egbert Ten Eyck,
Hart Massey,
Of Jefferson Co.
Thos. L. Davis,
Thos. Taber,
Henry Swift,
Barton White,
Egbert Cary,
Benj'n Haxtun,
Ob. Titus,
Joseph J. Jackson,
Stephen Thorne,
Henry A. Livingston,
John Wilkinson,
Of Dutchess Co.
J. P. Beekman,
L. Van Buren,
J. S. Vosburgh,
P. J. Hoes.
W. Hawley,
Thos. G. Waterman,
Of Broome Co.
G. Corning,
Philip Viele,
A. Walsh,
Of Rensselaer Co.
L. F. Allen,
P. B. Porter,
Aug. Porter,
Of Erie Co.
O. Wiswall,
Joab Centre,
W. B. Ludlow,
Carroll Livingston,
Peter Livingstsn,
Sherman Griswold,
Erastus Pratt,
Geo. M'Kinstry,
Abm. Jordan,
James Fleming,
Henry Smith,
Seymour Smith,
John Sanders,
Walter Patterson,
Of Columbia Co.
Erastus Corning,
J. K. Paige,
Wm. Campbell,
Aaron Thorp,
Samuel Cheever,
Isaac Denniston,
Of Albany Co.
G. Robinson,
Wm. Main,
M. Whiting,
C. Murdock,
Earl Stimson,
John H. Steele,
Of Saratoga Co.
Dan Dradley,
Of Onondaga Co.
G. D. Burrall,
Of Ontario Co.
J. B. Yates, *of Madison.*
T. H. Hubbard,
J. W. Brewster,
Of Oneida Co.

METHOD OF CURING BAD TUB BUTTER.—A quantity of tub butter was brought to market in the West Indies, which, on opening, was found to be very bad, and almost stinking. A native of Pennsylvania undertook to cure it, which he did in the following manner:

He started the tubs of butter in a large quantity of hot water, which soon melted the butter; he then skimmed it off as clean as possible, and worked it over again in a churn, and with the addition of salt and fine sugar, the butter was sweet and good.

REMEDY FOR THE LOCK JAW.—We are informed by a friend, that a sure preventive against this terrible disease is, to take some strong soft soap, and mix it with a sufficient quantity of pulverised chalk, so as to make it of the consistency of buckwheat batter; keep the chalk moistened with a fresh supply of soap until the wound begins to discharge and the patient finds relief.—Our friend stated to us, and implicit confidence may be placed in what he says, that he has known several cases where this remedy has been successfully applied. So simple and valuable a remedy, within the reach of every person, ought to be universally known.—*N. Y. Eve. Post.*

VALUALE RECIPE.—When a crack is discovered in a stove, through which the fire or smoke penetrates, the apertures may be completely closed in a moment, with a composition consisting of wood ashes and common salt, made into paste with a little water, plastered over the crack. The good effect is equally certain, whether the stove, &c. be cold or hot.—*Long Island Star.*

ADVANCE PAYMENTS.

The annexed is a complete list of all those who have paid in advance for the sixth volume of the Genesee Farmer. Beside these, many have paid for part of the volume; but as the payments have been heretofore acknowledged, we do not deem it necessary to republish the names.

Lewis F. Allen.
Myron Adams.
Dan Bradley.
Abner Bryant.
C. S. Button.
E. S. Bartlett.
Alex. Bowen.
Cha's J. Burnett.
Wm. V. Brown.
Abrm. Bell.
Rev. Wm. W. Bostwick.
A. G. Bates.
E. B. Botsford.
James Brown.
David Crowell.
Sam'l Coleman, July 1, 1838.
J. E. F. Clark, July, 1837.
Francis Cleavland.
Shelden Cook.
Joseph Clary.
V. D. Cowan.
P. G. Davison.
Amos Eaton.
David Fields.
Willis Gaylord.
David Good, vols. 6, 7 and 8.
Edward Garrigues.
P. Grimard.
Myron Holley.
A. A. Hooker.
C. B. Hotchkiss.
Benj. Hodges.
Elias Hull.
Riley Honey.
Tho's Heddon, Jr.
Allen W. Hinchman.
Joseph Hamilton.
J. C. Haviland.
Samuel Hutchins.
Joseph Hard.
Joseph Jacobs.
H. D. Jameson.
James Kapple.
Marvin Leonard.
Daniel Longstreth.
J. N. Loomis.
James Law.
Mass. Hort. Soc. July, 1837.
S. P. Morehouse.
Stephen R. Miller.
Enoch Marks.
Lewis F. Noe.
Jona. Owen.
Stephen Paschall, vols. 6, 7, 8 and 9.
Andrew T. Pierce.
Tho's Peele.
Wm. Plocker.
Thos. S. Pleasants.
Joseph Priestman.
Jonathan Roberts.
Moses Robinson.
Joseph Ridgway.
J. I. Spencer.
Charles Sentell.
Geo. Shepard.
Oren Shelden.
M. W. Stone.
Silas Shelby.
John Spicer.
Martin Strong.
David Thomas.
Matthew Talman.
Thomas Tufts.
Lardner Vanuxem.
O. H. Waite.
Robert T. Wheelock.
David Wendell.

Payments for the Genesee Farmer from Dec. 26, to Jan. 5, 1836, not included in the above:

For vols. 4 *&* 5.
Terry *&* Gleason.
E. H. Adams.
Daniel Gager.
For vol. 5.
T. V. Bogert.
R. & G. Culbertson.
C. Van Vechten.
Jubal Whitney.
July, 1835, *to July*, 1836.
Nathaniel Cook.
Chancey Crittenden.
G. P. Rose.
Last half vol. 5.
Joseph Ridgway.
Peter M'Collum.
Elkanah Temothe.
Oct. 1835, *to April*, 1836.
Jas. Worthington.
Eber Stone.
First half vol. 6.
Ebenezer Bowen.
R. T. Lee, from July, 1833, to July, 1836.

USEFUL INVENTIONS.—Among the awards made at the late annual meeting and exhibition of the N. Y. American Institute, were the diplomas to THOMAS D. BURRALL, of Geneva, for a corn-planter, a clover machine, a threshing machine, and a machine for extracting stumps. A diploma was awarded to Marshall & Adams, of Seneca Falls, for a model of a patent-lever town-clock.

BUCKWHEAT FOR FOWLS.—This grain given to fowls, tends to make them lay. Rye, on the contrary, is supposed to have a different effect.—*N. Y. Farmer.*

Mr. A. Brunson, of Meadville, Pa. says, from fifteen years' experience, he finds that an Indian meal poultice, covered over with young hyson tea, softened with hot water, and laid over burns and frozen flesh, as hot as it can be borne, will relieve the pain in five minutes; that if blisters have not arisen before, they will not after it is put on, and that one poultice is generally sufficient to effect a cure.

An Extract.—There is a close connexion between ignorance and vice; and in such a country as our own, the connexion is fatal to freedom. Knowledge opens sources of pleasure which the ignorant can never know—the pursuit of it fills up every idle hour, opens to the mind a constant source of occupation, wakes up the slumbering powers, gives the secret contest victory, and unveils to our astonishment, ideal worlds; secures us from temptation and sensuality, and exalts us in the scale of human beings. When I pass by the grog shop and hear the idle dispute and the obscene song—when I see the cart rolled along filled with intoxicated youth, singing and shouting as they go—when I discover the boat sailing down the river, where you can discover the influence of rum by the noise which it makes—I can not help but ask, were these people taught to read? Was there no social library to which they could have access? Did they ever know the calm satisfaction of taking an improving volume by a peaceful fireside? O, did they ever taste the luxury of improving the mind? You hardly ever knew the young man that loved his home and his book, that was vicious. Knowledge is often the poor man's wealth. It is a treasure that no thief can steal, no moth nor rust can corrupt. By this, you turn his cottage to a palace, and you give a treasure which is always improving and can never be lost.—"The poor man," says Robert Hall, "who has gained a taste for good books, will, in all likelihood, become thoughtful; and when you have given the poor a habit of thinking, you have conferred on them a much greater favor than by the gift of a large sum of money, since you have put in their possession the principle of all legitimate prosperity."

Nor is it to the poor alone, that this remark applies. The rich need occupation, their hearts are often like seas, which, stagnant under a breathless atmosphere, putrify for the want of a wave. Employment, roused by some noble object, is the secret of happiness.

An exuberant Orchard.—Toward the close of last summer we visited several times the orchard of Mr. Thomas Greene, of Pawtuxet, as one of the most beautiful and gratifying exhibitions of fructification we had ever beheld. Most of the trees were so laden with apples of the fairest quality as to require a prop under each limb, and some of them were so entirely curtained with fruit as to resemble a heap of apples resting upon columns. The orchard stood upon about an acre of ground, and contained thirty-five trees. Eight of these trees were small, from which, we have since been informed by Mr. Green, he gathered only from a bushel to a bushel and a half to a tree. From three of the other trees he gathered 27 bushels each, and from two others 30 bushels each. The whole product of the orchard was a little over four hundred bushels, out of which, after having dried 12 bushels, made 12 barrels of cider, and sold 60 bushels of fall apples. Mr. Greene informs us he has 220 bushels of winter apples in his cellar. During the summer he also took two tons of millet hay from the same acre of land. But what is the most remarkable fact in the history of this orchard is, as we are assured by Mr. Green and some of his neighbors, that when the land upon which this orchard stands came into his possession, it was an unproductive, drifting sand flat, upon which there was no vegetation, except such bushes as had been planted upon it by his father to prevent the wind from blowing the sand about. Outside of the orchard fence the land is still a naked white sand. But this sterile waste has been brought to its present state of almost unexampled fertility, solely by the application of fish as a manure.—Mr. Green says he ploughs in about 45 barrels of fish per year, costing generally from eight to nine dollars, and that if he should omit this application of manure for a few years, the soil, which is now of a dark yellow color, would doubtless bleach out again to the quality of white sand, and become as unproductive as ever. So much will good husbandry do towards causing "the desert to blossom like the rose."—*Prov. Her.*

Dyspepsia.—The Journal of the Franklin Institute, contains a description of a patent machine for the cure of the Dyspepsia, made by Charles Wood, New Bedford, Bristol county, Mass., Jan. 16. This machine consists of a table or platform, upon which the patient is to stand, and where he is to take hold of a couple of handles, by which he is to work a swinging part of the apparatus backward and forward.—The swinging part consists of two vibrating bars, which are attached by pivots, one on each side of the table, their upper ends being united by a cross bar, forming the handles. The weighted lower ends are to rub or strike against certain obstructions projecting from the table legs, and by this means a sudden jerk will be given to the muscles of the arms and chest, thus exercising them in such a manner as to restore its tone to the stomach, and of consequence, health to the patient. There were in existence (adds the Journal) before his patent was obtained, several machines adapted to the same purpose, which every one had the right, if they had the disposition, to use. One of them is technically known under the name of the wood-axe, another of them is denominated a saw, and there is a set of them called a maul and wedges. We have also heard of the application, in certain country places, of what are there known under the names of a hoe and a spade, which are said to be very good stimulants and tonics. In the use of them, withal, it is believed, that the result of the exercise is productive of other benefit, besides that accruing immediately to the patient.—*Nant. Inq.*

Cobbett's Habits.—The late Mr. Cobbett in his diet was extremely frugal and simple, and fastidiously regular in his hours, rising with the sun or before, and retiring to bed by nine. He used to say, "no honest man ought to be up later than ten." Two young gentlemen who attended him as secretaries, alternately rose at about three or four o'clock in the morning to write while he dictated, which he usually did while pacing the room backwards and forwards, paying regard to the punctuation, parenthesis, &c. all in the same breath, so that the matter needed no further correction for the press. He would not permit any alteration in the domestic arrangements during his stay at Landguard, but seemed studious to conform to all existing regulations, good humoredly overruling any proposal to consult his ease or comfort. The room in which he slept looking into the farm yard, his host expressed a fear that he might be disturbed too early in the morning by the noise of the cattle and poultry. Mr. Cobbett quashed the objection by saying, "he were but a poor farmer who would allow his live stock to be up before him."

Monroe Horticultural Garden & Nursery.

THE subscriber offers to the public a choice selection of Fruit Trees, of French, German, English and American varieties, consisting of Apples, Pears, Plums, Peaches, Cherries, Apricots, Nectarines, Quinces, Currants, Gooseberries, Raspberries, Strawberries, Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Plants, Hardy Roses, Vines, Creepers, Herbaceous Perennial Plants, Bulbous Roots, &c. &c.

ALSO—A few hundred of the Morus Multicaulis, or Chinese Mulberry, the White Italian Mulberry by the hundred or thousand, Grape Vines of both native and foreign varieties, mosty of large size, for sale by the single vine, hundred or thousand, at reduced prices. The subscriber has a large collection of Green-House Plants of choice and select varieties, and in good condition.

☞ Orders for *Mr.* Rowe's Nursery received by the Publisher of this paper.

Catalogues will be sent to those who wish them, gratis, or may be had by calling at the office of the Genesee Farmer. ASA ROWE.

Greece, *Monroe* co. N. Y. Sept. 13, 1834.

COBB'S MANUAL OF CULTURE OF SILK, &c. for sale by
HOYT & PORTER.

Fisher on the Vine.

OBSERVATIONS on the Culture of the European Vine, to which is added a Manual of the Swiss Vignerons and the art of Wine making, translated from the French—Price 75 cents. For sale by
june 20 HOYT & PORTER.

Sheep for Sale.

THE subscriber has for sale at his farm at East Bloomfield Center, 40 Bucks and about 500 Ewes. They are from the finest flocks of Dutchess county, and consist of full blooded Merinos and Saxons, and various grades of each.
LEONARD THOMPSON.
Bloomfield Center, Nov. 19, 1835. nov 21 f3t

The Silk Culturist, & Farmer's Manual.

"THE object of this publication is to disseminate a thorough knowledge of the cultivation of the Mulberry Tree in all its varieties, the rearing of Silk Worms, the production of Cocoons, and the reeling of silk in the most approved method."

It will also contain interesting matter on Agricultural subjects generally.

Published monthly at Hartford, Conn., by the Hartford County Silk Society, at 50 cents per year, in advance. Subscriptions received at the Rochester Seed Store, by
jnly 25 REYNOLDS & BATEHAM.

Robbins' Planting Machine.

WITH this Machine Corn, Beans, Peas, Broom Corn, Mangel Wurtzel, Turneps, Onions, and seeds of almost every description, can be planted with more system and correctness than can be done in the usual manner of planting with the hand and hoe. One man may easily plant five acres a day, placing the seeds any given distance apart, from two or more inches, and in rows two and a half feet apart.

Machines can be had by applying to Reynolds & Bateham, Rochester; C. N. Bement, Treasurer of the State Agricultural Society, Albany; Bushrod Buck, Lanesborough, Berkshire county, Mass.; and Daniel T. Buck, Lowville, Lewis county, agent and proprietor for making and vending said machines, at all of which places it is intended to keep a supply on hand.
Lowville, Nov. 24, 1835. nov 28–6m

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THE subscriber has now on hand a full supply of Garden and Field Seeds, growth of 1835, among which are all the finest Cabbages, Cauliflowers, Brocoli, Radishes, Peas, &c., that are cultivated in England, France and Holland, together with every sort that can be raised to advantage in our own country, and which are grown expressly for my use from stock furnished and raised by the most experienced gardeners in this country: in short, every article emanating from my store, warranted *genuine and fresh.*

Also, Skinless Oats; Potatoe Oats, 44 lb. weight to the bushel; Perennial Rye Grass; White Clover; Lucerne or French Clover; Orchard Grass; Herd's Grass; White Mulberry, and Yellow Locust Seeds; Spring Tares or Vetches; genuine Mangel Wurtzel, and Ruta Baga and Field Turnep Seeds, well worth the *attention of Farmers.*

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Flower Roots; Bulb Glasses; Greenhouse Plants; the best Books on Gardening, &c. at various prices; Bird Seeds of every sort; Pearl Barley; Oatmeal; Embden Grots for Gruel; Split Peas; White and Brown Mustard Seed; Garden Flower Pots an Garden Tools; Russian Bass Mats.

The Flower Seed department embraces the choicest variety to be found in this country, in which are included choice double Dahlia Seed, Carnation and choice Pinks, German and China Asters, splendid Double Balsoms, with an addition of several new varieties, accompanied with a printed direction for culture and management.

Orders will be punctually attended to and carefully packed and forwarded as directed, but as the collection of distant debts are often troublesome, and sometimes impracticable, it is desired that satisfactory references be made to persons in Albany, when the order is not accompanied with the money.
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